

Sportsman's renovation bid accepted

The Northbrook (Ill.) Park District Commission has accepted a \$1.3-million bid to renovate the east nine holes of the Sportman's Golf Course.

The district plans to install a new irrigation and drainage system and reseed the east nine holes of the 27-hole layout.

Ryan Excavating Co.'s winning bid, which was similar to earlier bids the council originally rejected as too high, was accepted by a 5-1 margin. Work was scheduled to start in January and the holes to be re-opened for play in December.

USGA awaits targets for research

Saying, "We think we're the environmentalists," USGA Green Section National Director William Bengeyfield says the section in the 1990s is stressing research on the environmental impact of golf courses.

Bengeyfield, claiming many environmental organizations hire "recruits who are emotionally motivated," said in an interview that the Green Section will rely on facts documented by research when evaluating the impact of golf courses.

A research effort is under way to find the results of pesticide applications.

Spectrum Research, Inc. has been hired for \$20,000 to do background research. Bengeyfield said that in late March, Spectrum officials will present their recommendations to the Green Section, outlining the areas that have not been, and ought to be, thoroughly researched in regard to the environment.

He said the Green Section will then seek "very specific" proposals from universities

regarding biodegradation and breakdown of pesticides and other topics.

After reviewing those proposals, the section will present a financial request to the USGA Executive Committee in late summer at the U.S. Amateur Open.

"The Executive Committee will decide if and how much to support this effort then," Bengeyfield said.

Bengeyfield said he hopes to work closely with the Environmental Protection Agency.

NEWS

SUNY campus honors Smalley with building

The State University of New York at Cobleskill has dedicated its new Turfgrass Building in honor of plant science Professor Emeritus Ralph Smalley.

Dr. Smalley started SUNY Cobleskill's turfgrass curriculum in 1962 and received the State University Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching in 1981.

A plaque honoring Smalley was unveiled at the dedication ceremony, and a second plaque acknowledges the New York State Turfgrass Association for its financial support.

The 24- by 80-foot building contains classroom space for courses in turfgrass management, recreation and sports-area management and an equipment storage area.

Students under Professor Meredith McNeil began construction on the building in the fall of 1984 and her students each year have continued the carpentry work. The campus's physical plant staff worked overtime to complete the project.

The NYS Turfgrass Association contributed \$26,000 to the total \$35,000 cost of the project and donated an IBM Model 30 computer, printer and monitor to the turfgrass foundation.

A matching funds grant of \$5,500 was given by SUNY Research Foundation, while ChemLawn Corp. donated \$2,500 toward construction materials and Stanford Seed. Co. gave \$700.

N.J. counties enjoy success, draw scrutiny

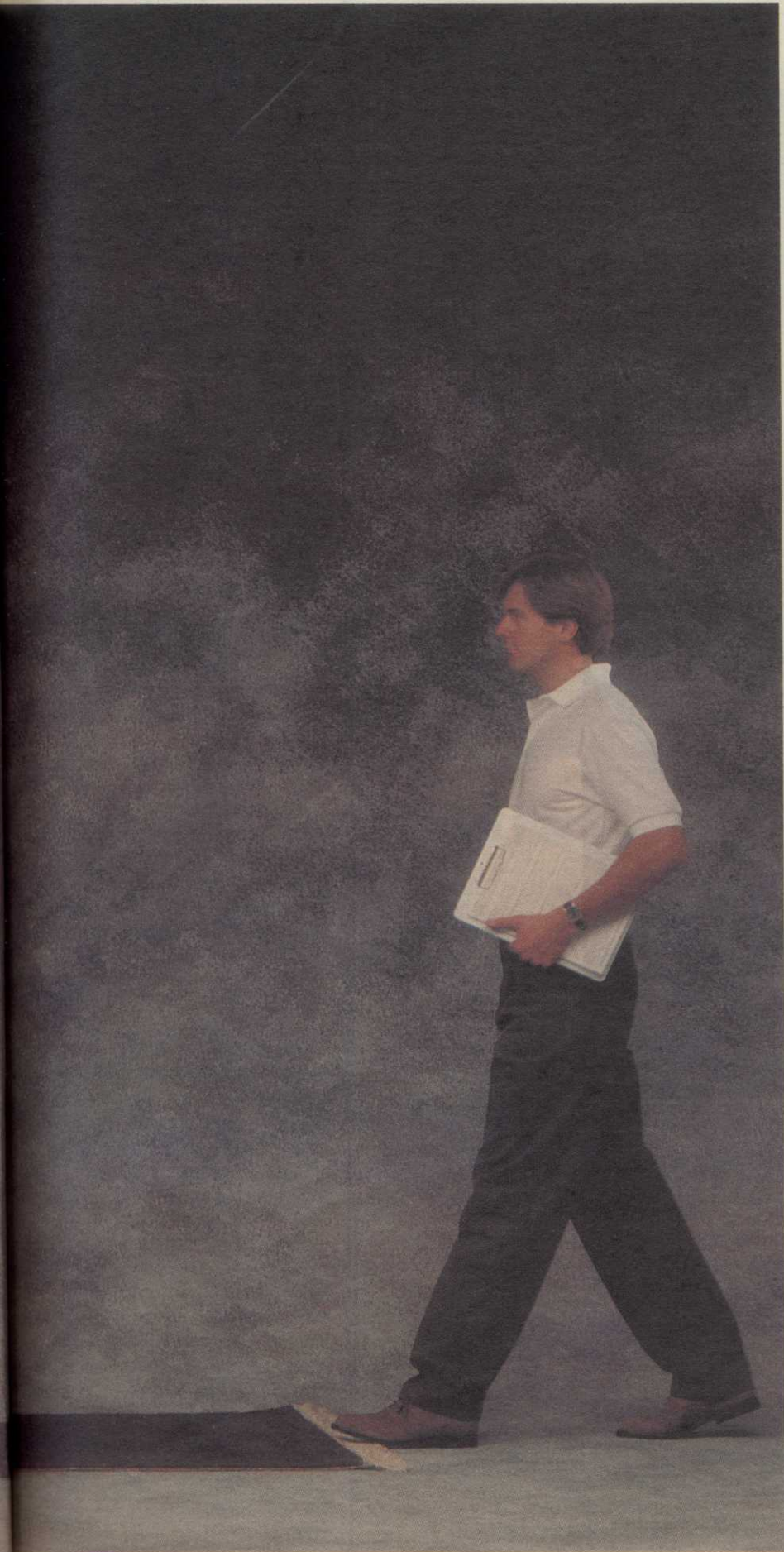
Having learned that other New Jersey counties are making money on county-run golf courses, officials in Burlington County are investigating the idea.

The Burlington County Freeholders' interest was sparked by a survey of other New Jersey counties that showed at least three operate public courses at a profit. Morris County has three courses, Mercer two and Ocean one with a second under construction, the survey found.

The Red Lion Golf Association, a group of some 200 Leisure Town residents, believes the county needs more public courses and has pushed for years for a county course.

Until now, county officials have balked at the move, citing limited revenue and escalating land costs.

Freeholder Bradford Smith is asking for a feasibility study and for the county to look into securing state and federal Green Acres funding to buy open space and turn it into a golf course.



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